

Community Assessment Program Area 2a Report to the Community

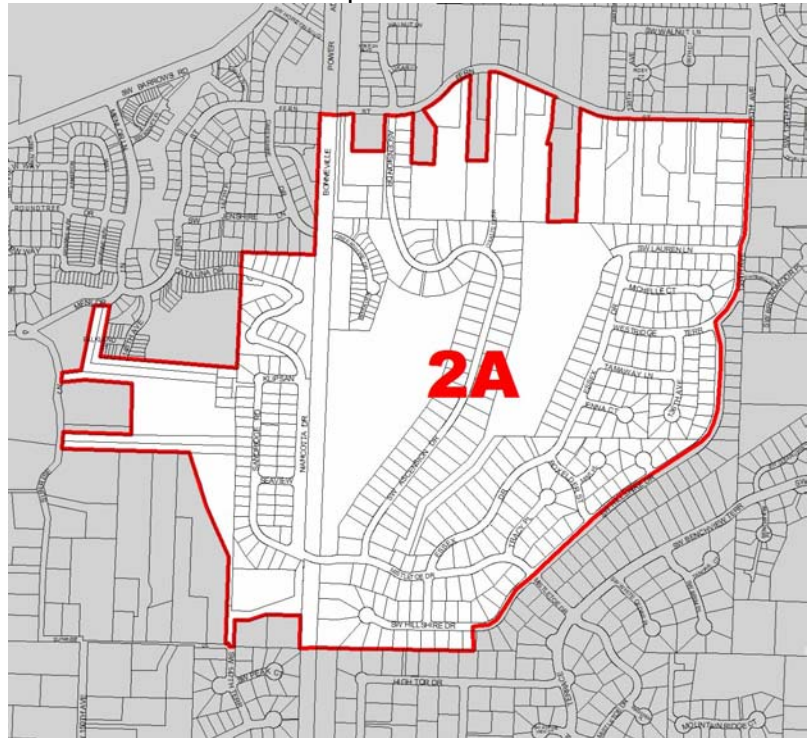
The Community Assessment Program is intended to bring work groups of city employees across department lines into each neighborhood of the city so all neighborhoods are the focus of an information gathering and issue identification effort at least once a year.

Staff walked this area on April 23, 2003 to conduct a first hand assessment. Corrective actions have been scheduled, assignments made, follow-up is being documented, and this report has been prepared to the community on the area.

Area 2a is bounded on the north by Fern Street, on the east by SW Hillshire Drive and SW 135th Avenue, on the south by SW Hillshire Drive, and on the west by Sandridge Road. The area is zoned and developed medium density residential.

Below is a summary of the assessment of your area. Please note where the city or other agency will assume responsibility for follow-up and where private citizens are responsible. Volunteer opportunities are also identified where neighbors could get involved to address issues. Together, we can work to improve our community.

Map of Area 2a



Kudos – Well maintained yards, asphalt in good repair, catch basins working well, nice address entry sign at driveway to 13992 SW Hillshire Drive.

Basketball hoops in right-of-way – We found several instances where basketball hoops are on sidewalks which are in the public right-of-way. Did you know that basketball hoops aren't allowed in the public right-of-way? An article detailing the rules for placement of basketball hoops will appear in the May Cityscape. Contact Christine Darnell, Code Compliance Specialist, at 503-639-4171 ext. 2441 or christine@ci.tigard.or.us.

Businesses without paid business tax – All businesses including home based businesses in Tigard must pay an annual business tax. If you own a business in this area, please make sure your business tax payment is current. Please contact Heather at 503-639-4171 ext. 2487 or heather@ci.tigard.or.us if you have questions. In addition to paying the business tax, you must have an approved home occupation permit to conduct business from your home. Please contact the permit counter at 503-639-4171 ext 2421.

Weeds/Shrubs blocking sidewalks – In several locations residents have allowed their shrubs and/or weeds to grow onto the sidewalk. All vegetation should be clear of sidewalks. If your bushes or weeds have experienced a recent growth spurt please trim them back away from the sidewalk.

Questions? Contact Christine Darnell, Code Compliance Specialist, at 503-639-4171 ext. 2441 or christine@ci.tigard.or.us .

Vegetation in storm water ditches and catch basins – The Public Works Department will assess each location and establish a priority for annual maintenance. You can help out by keeping vegetation down in storm water ditches that abut your property. Questions? Contact Eric Hand at 503-639-4171 ext. 2607 or eric@ci.tigard.or.us .

Vegetation blocking fire hydrants – There were a few examples where vegetation had been allowed to grow up around fire hydrants. This can create a problem if there is a fire because the fire department may have a delay while trying to locate and clear the hydrant. The Public Works Department will send out crews to clear the vegetation at the locations noted, but you can help by keeping the vegetation trimmed around a fire hydrant on your property. Questions? Contact Sam Morrison at 503-639-4171 ext. 2600 or sam@ci.tigard.or.us .

Cable boxes in need of repair – We noticed a few examples of damaged cable boxes. A letter will be sent to the cable company as a courtesy, informing them of our findings. For more information or comments, contact Sarah Hackett at the Metro area Cable Commission (503-645-7365).

More ways you can help make our community better –

If you spot graffiti contact the police non-emergency number at 503-629-0111 to report the location. An officer will be dispatched to photograph the graffiti for record and the property owner or public agency (if it is on a utility pole, box or transit stop) will be notified.

Neighborhood Watch - Are your neighbors watching out for you? Do you know your neighbors? Do you know how and when to call Tigard Police? Start a neighborhood watch program! At some point, your neighborhood may have had an active Neighborhood Watch program working in partnership with the Tigard Police. Over time, many Tigard neighborhoods have evolved with new residents moving in and others moving away. Maybe it is time to take another look at your neighborhood. For more information on how to take a bite out of crime in your neighborhood and at the same time get re-acquainted with your neighbors, contact the Tigard Police Crime Prevention Officer at 503-718-2561.

Help protect our streams - If you and your neighbors, church group or scout troop would like to help keep our streams clean, help out by volunteering to stencil storm drains. The “dump no waste, drains to stream” message reminds people not to dump soapy water, pesticides or other substances down the storm drains. If you are interested, contact Susan Koepping at 503-639-4171 x 2402 or susank@ci.tigard.or.us.

If you are interested in serving as a community connector for this area, please contact Liz Newton at 503-639-4171 ext. 2412 or liz@ci.tigard.or.us. The role of the community connector is a two way communicator of information as well as the neighborhood contact in times of emergency.